What is claimed is:

1. An image processing apparatus comprising:

a content determination unit that determines content of image

processing to be applied to each of a plurality of image data;

5   an image processing unit that applies the image processing based on

the content determined to corresponding image data; and

a transmission unit that transmits the image data processed to an

external unit.

10 2. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further

comprising a color determination unit that determines whether the image data

is color image data or monochrome image data, wherein

the content determination unit determines the content, based on a

result of determination by the color determination unit.

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3. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further

comprising a scanner unit that reads out the image data from a recording

medium, wherein

the content determination unit, the image processing unit, and the

20 transmission unit operate independently of the scanner unit, in separate

operation modes, respectively.

4. The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein

when the color determination unit determines that the image data is

25 color image data, the content determination unit determines the content to be

conversion of the color image data into monochrome image data.

5. The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein when the color determination unit determines that the image data is monochrome image data, the content determination unit determines the content to be binarization of the image data.

6. The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein
the image processing includes compression processing, and
the content determination unit determines content of the compression processing based on the result of the determination by the color determination unit.

7. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
the image processing includes general format conversion to convert the image data into image data that is available in a general information processing apparatus.

8. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
the image processing includes color conversion processing, and
the content determination unit determines to perform the color conversion processing based on the result of the determination by the color determination unit.

9.   The image processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the content determination unit changes a parameter for the color conversion processing for each image data.

5   10.   The image processing apparatus according to claim1, wherein the image processing includes gamma correction processing.

11.   The image processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the content determination unit changes gamma correction data used for the

10   gamma correction processing for each image data.

12.   The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image processing includes halftone processing.

15   13.   The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a correlation detecting unit that detects whether there is a correlation between a plurality of image data,

wherein the content determination unit determines to apply same image processing to the plurality of image data upon the correlation detecting

20   unit detecting that there is the correlation.

14.   The image processing apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising an instruction reception unit that receives an instruction, which indicates execution of the same image processing to the plurality of image data,

25   from a user,

wherein the content determination unit determines to apply the same image processing to the plurality of image data upon the instruction reception unit receiving the instruction.

5   15.   The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an instruction reception unit that receives instruction information indicating an instruction from a user, wherein

the content determination unit determines the content of the image processing, based on the instruction information for each image data.

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16.   The image processing apparatus according to claim 15, wherein

the image processing includes background removal processing and color space conversion,

the instruction reception unit receives the instruction information on the

15   background removal processing for the image data, and

the content determination unit changes a parameter for the color space conversion based on the instruction information.

17.   The image processing apparatus according to claim 15, wherein

20   the image processing further includes gamma correction,

the instruction reception unit receives the instruction information on the background removal processing for the image data, and

the content determination unit changes input/output characteristic curve for the gamma correction based on the instruction information.

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18.   The image processing apparatus according to claim 15, wherein

the image processing further includes halftone processing,

the instruction reception unit receives the instruction information on the

background removal processing for the image data, and

5   the content determination unit changes the content of the halftone

processing based on the instruction information.

19.   The image processing apparatus according to claim 15, further

comprising a correlation detecting unit that detects whether there is a

10   correlation between a plurality of image data,

wherein the content determination unit determines to apply same

image processing to the plurality of image data upon the instruction reception

unit receiving different instruction information for each image data, and upon

the correlation detecting unit detecting that there is the correlation.

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20.   The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further

comprising an image forming unit that forms an image on a recording medium

based on the image data after the image processing.

20   21.   A method for image processing comprising:

determining content of image processing to be applied to each of a

plurality of image data;

applying the image processing based on the content determined to

corresponding image data; and

25   transmitting the image data processed to an external unit.

22.   A computer program making a computer execute:

determining content of image processing to be applied to each of a plurality of image data;

applying the image processing based on the content determined to corresponding image data; and

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transmitting the image data processed to an external unit.

23.   A computer readable recording medium that contains a computer program, the computer program making a computer execute:

10   determining content of image processing to be applied to each of a plurality of image data;

applying the image processing based on the content determined to corresponding image data; and

transmitting the image data processed to an external unit.

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